CASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Doordarshan endeavors to telecast high quality programs drawn upon the deeper cultural, philosophic and spiritual contents of all religions.

Operational Efficiency of Aircrafts

5226. SHRI ANBARASU ERA,Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the aircraft run iate; and

(b) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken to improve the operational efficiency?

MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Irrigation Projects In Private Sector

5227. SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to involve private companies in major and medium irrigation projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for privatisation of major and medium irrigation projects which are capital intensive. But the work of maintenance of system and distribution of water at the tertiary level and recovery of water-rates is proposed to be entrusted to the water users associations and cooperatives.

Private Equity Partner for IISCO

5228. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Business Standard dated February 25, 1992 regarding private equaty partner for IISCO;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the massive Iron ore deposits in Chiria hill is taken into consideration while finalising the privatisation deal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While clearing the proposal on Modernisation of Burnpur Steel Works in December, 1991, the Public Investment Board had directed the Ministry of Steel to fully explore the possibilities of private participation in Indian Iron and Steel Company (IISCO). Steel Authority of India Limited have engaged SBI-Capital Markets Ltd. for completing this exercise. Their report is expected to be received soon. After the report is examined, appropriate recommendations will be made to the Government.

(c) and (d): SAIL have kept Chitra Iron ore Deposits outside the purview of the ongoing exploration of possibilities of private participation in IISCO.

[Translation]

Kahalgaon Power Project

5229. SHRI YASHWANT RAO PATIL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON